

MEMORANDUM

TO: Examination Committee

DATE: February 5, 2013

FROM: Lavinia F. Snyder
Licensing/Registration Coordinator

SUBJECT: Consider English as a Second Language as a Basis for an Accommodation in Taking the Examination

At the last Board meeting, the Board decided to defer this agenda item for further discussion at the next meeting. Attached is the Board's policy regarding ESL and the results from an email sent to the different State Boards in the United States.

In addition the following information was gathered from other entities:

1. Association for State and Provincial Psychology Board (ASPPB), the Board that administers the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology, does not consider ESL as a disability.
2. The Medical Board of California does not have any regulations/statutes relative to ESL.
3. The Board of Behavioral Science use to provide ESL until 07/01/2011. Their requirements for ESL were very similar to our Board's requirement. However, since ESL is not considered a disability BBS eliminated this accommodation for candidates taking their exams.



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BOARD POLICY: Reasonable Accommodations for Psychology Licensing Examinations

ADOPTED: July 27, 1991

1. All examinations (written and oral) will be administered at designated examination sites which will be handicapped accessible. For security reasons, off-site exam administration will not be an option.

2. All reasonable accommodations will be made to disabled candidates when proper notice is given and appropriate medical verification of disability is provided well in advance of the examination date.

For those disabled candidates requiring a reader, the candidate must provide their own reader who must certify that they have no experience or knowledge of the subject of psychology. The Board will provide a proctor to sit in with the candidate and reader during the taking of the written examination.

3. Candidates for the written examination who claim "English as a second language" may be allowed up to two additional hours to take the examination upon adequate prior notice of such need provided both of the following conditions are met:

a. The candidate submits proof that original entry into the United States occurred within the last ten years, and

b. Original entry into the United States did not occur prior to the candidate's beginning of university training.

Proof will consist of copies of the candidate's entry papers.

PLEASE NOTE:

The written examination results of those candidates who have been granted additional time to take the examination, regardless of the reason, will be reported to the Professional Examination Service as having been completed under non-standard conditions. Their scores will not be used in the computation of the national norms, therefore the candidate must accept responsibility concerning reciprocity consideration with other state licensing boards.

STATE BOARD	STATUTE, REGULATION OR POLICY	EXAM ACCOMMODATION
<u>Alabama</u>		
<u>Alaska</u>		
<u>Arizona</u>	No provision	Never had a request
<u>Arkansas</u>		
<u>California</u>	Policy attached	Accommodation will be provided to candidates who have been in this country for less than ten years. Candidates must document proof of entry into the US.
<u>Colorado</u>	No	Not a recognized disability
<u>Connecticut</u>		
<u>Delaware</u>		
<u>District of Columbia</u>		
<u>Florida</u>		
<u>Georgia</u>		
<u>Guam</u>	No provision	Do not allow accommodation
<u>Hawaii</u>	No provision	Do not allow accommodation
<u>Idaho</u>	No provision	Never had a request
<u>Illinois</u>		
<u>Indiana</u>		
<u>Iowa</u>		
<u>Kansas</u>		
<u>Kentucky</u>		
<u>Louisiana</u>		
<u>Maine</u>	No provision	Do not allow accommodation
<u>Maryland</u>	No	Must be proficient in English
<u>Massachusetts</u>	No provision	Do not allow accommodation
<u>Michigan</u>	No provision	Must be proficient in English
<u>Minnesota</u>	No provision	Do not allow accommodation
<u>Mississippi</u>		
<u>Missouri</u>		
<u>Montana</u>		
<u>Nebraska</u>		
<u>Nevada</u>	No provision	If requested Board would have to discuss and vote
<u>New Hampshire</u>		
<u>New Jersey</u>		
<u>New Mexico</u>		
<u>New York</u>	No provision	Mus be proficient in English. Do not allow accommodation
<u>North Carolina</u>	No provision	Do not allow accommodation
<u>North Dakota</u>		
<u>Ohio</u>	No	Not a recognized disability
<u>Oklahoma</u>	No provision	Never had a request

	YES. OAR 858-010-0030(5) Special Accommodations. Requests for special accommodations for a disability or for English as a second language must be made at the time the written request to sit for the examination is made, or when the disability becomes known to the applicant. The request must include:	(b) English as a Second Language: Written request for reasonable accommodation detailing: (A) Level of proficiency in English including, but not limited to, number of years speaking and/or writing English; (B) History of special accommodations granted in similar testing circumstances; (C) Other information to support request for special accommodation; and (D) Recommendation(s) for accommodation
<u>Oregon</u>		
<u>Pennsylvania</u>	No	
<u>Puerto Rico</u>		
<u>Rhode Island</u>		
<u>South Carolina</u>	No	Never has a request
<u>South Dakota</u>		
<u>Tennessee</u>	No provision	Do not allow accommodation
<u>Texas</u>	NO	Not a recognized disability
<u>Utah</u>	No provision for psychologists. Provisions are available for LCSW	
<u>Vermont</u>		
<u>Virginia</u>		
<u>Virgin Islands</u>		
<u>Washington</u>	No	
<u>West Virginia</u>		
<u>Wisconsin</u>		
<u>Wyoming</u>	Our Board allows special accommodations for disabilities recognized by the ADA and must be supported by doctor's diagnosis and evidence of accommodations being provided during schooling to match those requested for the EPPP.	To my knowledge, we do not offer special accommodations for English as a Second Language.